

The Weather

Bridgeport and vicinity—
Rain and warmer tonight;
Saturday cloudy and colder.

The Bridgeport Times

AND EVENING FARMER

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ALMANAC FOR TODAY

Sun rises 6:10 a. m.
Sun sets 5:56 p. m.
Length of Day 11 h. 47 m.
Day's increase 2 h. 41 m.
High water 8:14 a. m.
Moon rises 12:49 a. m.
Low water 11:21 a. m.

PRICE TWO CENTS

WILSON TO TAKE HAND IN COAL DISPUTE

Convoy System Adopted Only After Long Delay

Despite "Urgent Recommendations" of Allies and Himself, Sims Charges Navy With Serious Procrastination.

Washington, March 12.—Disregard by the navy department of his recommendations with regard to adoption of the convoy system was described by Admiral Sims today as "indefinitely more serious" in its bearing on the war than other cases of alleged inefficiency cited in previous testimony before the Senate investigating committee.

Admiral Sims said that early in 1917 the allies were compelled by the submarines to adopt the convoy plan for protecting shipping and that on May 1 he "urgently recommended" that the United States give its cooperation but it was not until June 20 that Secretary Daniels replied he considered American vessels having armed guards were safer when sailing independently.

The admiral said he again urged the immediate adoption of convoy system and stated his belief that arming merchantmen did not offer sufficient safeguard against submarine attack. On July 1 he received a cable outlining an entirely new plan of protecting merchant ships, formulated in the department, which he said was widely at variance with the British and French systems and which he cabled the department would be a "fundamental military error" resulting in "direct assistance to the enemy."

In answer the navy department submitted another plan, he said, and asked that he present it to the British admiralty. He did so and was told that the proposal had been tried out by the allies early in the war without success and that the admiralty desired assurance of American co-operation in the convoy plan so the first convoy might sail from New York July 8.

About the same time Admiral Jellicoe wrote him expressing grave apprehension for the success of the convoy system unless the United States decided to participate, the admiral stated.

Finally on July 22 the navy department accepted the convoy plan for troop ships and later accepted it for supply vessels, the admiral testified, but only after the British had been brought to bear by the other allies and after many valuable weeks had been wasted. Even as late as August 10, he received message from the department asking that the convoy system be explained, although "for four months I had been exhausting my vocabulary in attempting to explain the system."

"It is very difficult for me to make clear to you now the desperation in which I found myself almost constantly during the early months of the war," Admiral Sims said. "I reiterate there was no question that these recommendations were right. The fact remains that they were virtually all adopted in the end."

RIISING WATERS ADDED PERIL TO MISSOURI TOWNS

Irannon, Mo., March 12.—Flooded streams today added a further menace to life and property in southwest Missouri, where yesterday a tornado killed at least 15 persons, injured a number of others and did property damage as yet unestimated.

Every creek and river of the Ozark hills region today was reported either overflowing or running bank-full from the torrential rains that preceded and followed the tornado. Should the precipitation continue, it was said, the danger from floods would become serious.

Observers agreed today that one tornado instead of two swept the affected districts. Apparently it struck first at Nevada, Mo., where three persons were killed and property damaged \$100,000 or more. Lifting, it swept above four counties before it descended and spent its strength in a rush through Taney county and the Turkey Creek valley, with a toll of ten additional lives.

The victims in the latter vicinity included the seven children of R. H. and William H. In the wives of both were seriously injured. William Markey and Mrs. Alva Howard and her child were the others killed. It was believed that the death toll would be increased today when full reports from the devastated district were received. Rescuers sought John Gross and his wife whose home disappeared during the storm. No trace of it was left.

ESPERANZA SAFE IN HARBOR SAYS COMPANY REPORT

New York, March 12.—The Ward line steamship Esperanza, which went aground yesterday off the coast of Yucatan, Mexico, has been floated and arrived safely at Progreso, Mexico early today, according to a message received by the line here. The passengers on board suffered no inconvenience, it was stated. An examination of the ship to ascertain if she suffered any serious damage now is under way.

PROHIBITION IS CAUSING MANY TO LEAVE U. S.

Immigration Now Exceeds Emigration, Says Congressman.

New York, March 12.—Prohibition is causing so many foreign born to leave the United States that emigration is exceeding immigration, according to Congressman Isaac Street, a member of the House Immigration Committee. Ellis Island records today showed that immigration since January 1, to total 53,900, while 61,000 persons left the country. Most of the latter have gone back to Poland and Czechoslovakia to stay.

From the signing of the armistice until January 1 immigration and emigration were about equal, approximately 275,000. In January, 23,000 persons landed here from abroad and 24,000 left the country. In February 22,000 arrived and 25,000 left. This month the excess of emigration is on the increase, 13,000 having left the country and 8,000 having arrived. It is estimated that the figures for the whole month will be 36,000 departures and 24,000 arrivals. While a desire to live in rejuvenated homelands is a factor in emigration, Mr. Street believes that prohibition is the principal reason. Inability to buy beer or wine, he says, has created considerable ill feeling among foreign born residents, particularly in mining districts.

STORM WARNING.

New York, March 12.—The weather bureau here today issued the following storm warning:
"Southwest storm warning 11 a. m.—Hatteras to Eastport. Marked disturbance over Georgian Bay moving rapidly northward. Strong south and southwest winds beginning this afternoon and shifting to north-west by Saturday morning."

HUGE ICE GORGE SMASHES BRIDGE OVER ALLEGHENY

Pittsburgh, Pa., March 12.—An ice gorge 20 feet high and stretching eight miles up river, broke loose at Freeport last night, started with a rush down the Allegheny, ran into the county bridge, moving it ten inches out of line and tore a number of boats, large barges and houseboats from their moorings, washing them down the river into the Ohio and pounding most of them into splinters on the way.

According to reports, ice in the upper Allegheny is level with the bridges and the tracks of the Allegheny Valley railroad, and much damage is expected when it all begins moving downstream.

The gorge which went out today was one of the heaviest in recent years and when it broke the sound of the crash could be heard for several miles.

ACCUSES WIFE OF INFIDELITY

That her husband presented a girl boarder with a locket and was seen kissing her, was alleged by Margaret Heffernan today when she appeared before State Referee Roraback at the county court house today to defend a divorce action brought by Stephen Heffernan of this city. Mrs. Heffernan was very cool toward her husband after the incident of the jewelry, although he denied having made the gift. He also denied any undue familiarity with the girl.

The Heffernans were living on Grand street last year when the trouble occurred. The husband brought the present action on the ground of infidelity.

Referee Roraback was doubtful whether the couple could have been plainly seen on a dark night. Attorney Henry Greenstein, counsel for Heffernan, said he would introduce proof later to show that the night was clear. The court reserved decision in the case.

BOLSHEVIK VICTORY.

London, March 9.—Bolshevik troops have cleared the hostile forces from the entire peninsula of Yask, in Caucasian, on the Sea of Azov. It is announced in a Soviet official communique received today from Moscow.

STEAMER DESTROYED.

Port of Spain, Trinidad, March 12.—The American steamship Balabac, owned by the United States Shipping Board, was totally destroyed by fire here early today. The cargo of the ship had been previously discharged and she was awaiting orders from the owners.

Nation In Dire Need of Teachers

Whole Country Faces Serious Shortage—Conditions Slightly Better In Some Sections—Many Schools Closed.

Washington, March 12.—The country is faced with a serious shortage of school teachers, chiefly through failure to provide adequate salaries according to reports to the United States Bureau of Education. Conditions are becoming slightly better, however, the report states, in some sections compared with those of last October when the National Education Association conducted an inquiry into the situation.

Based on returns from state school officials, the reports show that on Feb. 15 last there were 13,279 schools closed because of lack of teachers and 41,900 being taught by teachers characterized as "below standard but taken on temporarily in the emergency." Greater shortages are shown to exist in Southern states.

Responding to a questionnaire sent out by the commissioner of education, a great majority of the states in which schools are closed report that children are being transferred to other districts, while the remainder report pupils losing the grade. To another question as to what extent taxpayers are interesting themselves in paying better salaries for teachers, the response was almost unanimous for an increase.

Salaries paid teachers in 1918, statistics show, were on an average of \$565 for elementary teachers and \$1,031 for those teaching in high schools. From salary schedules collected from various states, giving salaries received by individual teachers in three counties in each state, it is shown that wages paid rural teachers fell far below the foregoing average in many states, many localities showing salaries paid as low as \$158 and \$200 a year.

In 1920 state, county, city and private normal schools representing 60 per cent of the total normal schools in the country, there were 11,503 fewer students enrolled Nov. 1, 1919, than during the pre-war period. A similar falling off is shown in teacher-training departments in colleges while other departments show great increases in enrollment.

A. O. Neal, of the bureau's division of Rural Education, said today there was an increasing withdrawal of men teachers from the profession, the percentage of male teachers in 1918 being only 17 per cent, or one in every six.

RAID COFFEE HOUSE AND NAB 14 GAMBLERS

A squad of police headed by Sergeant Dennis Schaefer descended upon a coffee house at 33 Union street early this morning, and surprised a gang of 14 men who were gathered in a back room playing cards. James Cotis of 147 Stratford avenue was arrested, charged with keeping a gambling house, and the 13 other men were taken into custody on charges of frequenting a gambling establishment.

The police also seized a large number of cards which were found in the place.

HUBBY WANTED HER INSURANCE

Her husband wanted her insurance policy and was angry because she would not assign it to him, Nellie McGuire, 490 Broad street, testified in the Superior Court this morning when she was granted a divorce from Joseph McGuire of this city. After that he refused to work and was frequently intoxicated. Because of her husband's conduct and his refusal to support her, Mrs. McGuire left him in 1913, she said. She is employed at Warner Bros. plant.

Other divorcees granted by Judge Keeler were: Herbert E. Bradley, from North End building contractor, from Myra Belle Bradley, desertion; Albert E. Knapp from Josephine Knapp, both of this city, desertion; Laura Mae Farr of this city, from Harry J. Farr of this city, desertion.

PLANE CROSSES ANDES.

Buenos Aires, March 9.—The Andes have again been crossed by an airplane. The feat this time was accomplished by Captain Parodi, an Argentine flyer. He piloted his plane from Mendoza, Argentina, to a point over Santiago, Chile. Captain Parodi made no landing in Santiago, returning to Mendoza without having touched ground during the entire trip.

ANNIVERSARY OF GREAT BLIZZARD

Continued cloudiness with rising temperature and probable rain is the prediction today by the weather man. It is of interest to note that today is the anniversary of the famous blizzard of '88 when the greatest fall of snow ever experienced in this city completely cut off Bridgeport from other sections of the country for several days.

Old timers around here who recall with vividness that famous storm, state emphatically that even the near-blizzard of last Saturday and the heavy snow fall which preceded it by several days were "mere nothings" compared with the regular "big blizzard" of 22 years ago.

WOOD ADVOCATES FOSTERING OF FOREIGN TRADE

Presidential Candidate Also Urges U. S. Merchant Marine.

Indianapolis, Ind., March 12.—The fostering of Democratic business and world commerce was advised by Major General Leonard Wood, candidate for the Republican nomination for president, as one of the paramount obligations of the American people and government, in an address before Indiana Republican leaders at a luncheon at the Columbia Club here today.

General Wood advocated careful training of consular officers for all foreign countries, to the offices of which would be attached trained commercial agents. In this connection he mentioned particularly the need for such agents in the war-torn and devastated countries, in which he declared the United States has never had such an opportunity to advance its trade relations.

The sale of a base of American shipping built during the war, to American firms only, in order that the merchant marine built up might be kept under the American flag, also was urged by the speaker.

General Wood reiterated that he favored adoption of the treaty of peace and the League of Nations covenant with reservations "which absolutely Americanize it" and a "strong courteous foreign policy," which would include a trade policy.

LONDON PAPER TAKES "SLAM" AT WILSON'S STAND

London, March 12.—President Wilson's charge of "imperialism" against France, contained in his letter to United States Senator Gilbert M. Hitchcock early this week, was met this morning by the Morning Post to take up the cudgels in favor of France. The newspaper cites Mr. Wilson's present criticisms and his appeal to Italians over the head of Premier Orlando last summer as showing that "under the impulse of his lofty ideals the American president is almost as impatient of the constitutional government of modern European democracies as he is impatient of his own Senate."

"Mr. Wilson's slight to France," the newspaper continues, "is particularly disturbing when one remembers the moving passages in which he recorded America's repudiation of what France suffered in the cause of human freedom. Americans and Englishmen will understand the amazement of France that the same voice which described her as France, which in his early years he accused her of being chauvinistic government to overthrow which she sacrificed a million of her sons."

Containing there are many indications of the spirit of aggression and revenge rising in Germany and dismissing the League of Nations as being "almost as effective a barrier against German aggression as the International Postal Union," the newspaper says.

"The American nation, a chivalrous comrade in arms and an old friend, who has been so generous to Mr. Wilson's admirable phrase formed the dividing line between democracy and tyranny, cannot afford to take risks."

TO SELL CAMPUS LUNCH ASSETS

Referee in Bankruptcy John T. Keogh today ordered the assets of the Campus Lunch, on John street, to be sold to the highest bidder. J. S. McNamara, the trustee, was ordered to receive sealed bids and present them to meeting of the creditors which will be held in the Bankruptcy Court on Friday, March 26, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon. The bids will be opened at that time. No bid for less than \$5,000 will be considered and every bid must be accompanied by a certified check for 10 per cent of the amount bid.

Tribute To America By Geddes

New British Ambassador Makes Plea for Strengthening Anglo-American Bond—Praises U. S. War Work.

London, March 12.—Sir Auckland Geddes, the newly appointed ambassador to the United States, made his first speech today since his appointment was announced, addressing a large gathering in his honor at the American Luncheon club. The ambassador said he felt at first that he was dealing with a great civilization which seemed different from all he had met, until "the crust was broken and I found myself among people I understood."

"The cure for such ills as exist is, I am sure, frankly to recognize that the common language is at once a bond and a barrier, and to work to strengthen its binding power and weaken its separating influence. It can be done but it is not the work of a day or a year."

"What we all want more consciously to realize is that nations cannot be judged by a few chance specimens of their citizens. They must be judged by the expression of their collective will, made manifest in hours of crisis. Judge Britain by her action as a nation during the war, during, if you will, one month of the war—April, 1918—and I think no Briton or friend of Britain need be ashamed of his citizenship or his friendship."

Judge America by her action when she came into the war, her wholehearted and instantaneous adoption of compulsory military service and even more striking, the voluntary rationing of the use of food and fuel in millions of households, and I think no American or friend of America need be other than proud of his citizenship or his friendship."

STERLING SLUMPS.
New York, March 12.—A sharp slump in foreign exchange occurred at the opening of the market here today, rates on dollar sterling being quoted at 42.55 or 75 cents below yesterday's closing figure.

WOMAN HURT AS JITNEY CRASHES INTO HYDRANT

Going east on State street this morning Ralph Claude, of 5 Electric avenue, followed Beach, driving a jitney containing five passengers, swerved sharply into Broad street in order to avoid a machine coming out of the latter thoroughfare and in so doing his machine skidded into the fire hydrant on the corner shaking up all the passengers and injuring Mrs. Annie Berman, 29, of 221 Hancock street.

Dr. B. J. Burns responded to a call for the Emergency ambulance and upon examination discovered Mrs. Berman suffering from severe contusions of the right knee and a possible fracture of the right ankle. She was taken home at her own request.

CATCH FUGITIVE IN SO. NORWALK

Caught in South Norwalk early yesterday morning, a few hours after she had escaped from the County Jail in North Avenue, Mrs. Stella Robinson, colored, of 198 Knowlton street, was returned to Bridgeport last night and again placed in confinement.

The woman was arrested some time ago when a squad of police raided the notorious house at 198 Knowlton street. Unable to pay a \$50 fine which was imposed by the City Court, Mrs. Robinson went to jail, and stayed there until Wednesday night, at which time she made her get-away. It is alleged that the woman went to South Norwalk to secure drugs from a friend.

MOB SHOTS NEGRO

Montgomery, Ala., March 12.—William Smith, a negro and former soldier, was shot to death by six masked men near Legrand last night after his arrest by Frank Robinson, a farmer, on a charge of attacking a six-year-old white girl.

LOWLANDS FLOODED

Cleveland, O., March 12.—Boats and cottages along Rocky river were buried today under miniature mountains of ice following the breaking of a large ice gorge last night and the flooding of the lowlands.

Coal Commission Not Yet Agreed

Wage Scale and Hours of Work Still Bone of Contention in Bituminous Conference—Minority Report Goes to President—Lewis Hurries to Washington to Get in Touch With Situation.

Washington, March 12.—An effort to compose the differences between the majority and minority of the bituminous coal strike commission will be made by President Wilson, it was said today at the White House.

Officials said that neither the majority nor minority reports would be published if there was probability of bringing the members of the commission to an agreement on their principal differences, the amount of the wage advance and the hours of work.

32,000 PINTS A DAY IS SET AS CHICAGO'S LIMIT

Chicago, March 12.—Consumption of whiskey in Chicago will be limited to 32,000 pints a day, Captain H. E. Howard, state prohibition director, announced today. He told the Retail Druggists' Association each druggist may sell 100 gallons of whiskey, or gin each month. There are 1,200 druggists.

Major A. V. Dalrymple, prohibition enforcement officer for the central states, declared some druggists are buying "moonshine" which costs 18 cents a quart to make and color and sell it for \$4 a quart.

"If this doesn't stop, I shall urge the government to establish dispensaries as thick as postoffices and prohibit the sale of liquor anywhere else," Major Dalrymple added.

"There are 5,000 moonshine stills in Chicago and I have found some prescriptionists who are filling 500 liquor prescriptions a day."

CONFERENCE OF ANTHRACITE MEN RESUMED TODAY

New York, March 12.—The subcommittee of miners and operators appointed to negotiate the new wage agreement for the anthracite miners resumed their deliberations in executive session here today. Hope that award of President Wilson's bituminous coal commission would be available as a basis of settlement in the hard coal field has virtually been abandoned, as John P. White, miners' representative, refused to sign the report. Officials of the mine workers' union declared that this disagreement will bar any consideration being given the award to the soft coal workers.

Several railroad employees testified that a rule of the company, which prevented employees from riding on the front end of a train, made it difficult to avoid the fatality. In executive session here today, the negotiations affecting the anthracite fields as rapidly as possible in order to prevent a suspension of work in the Pennsylvania hard coal fields on March 31 when the present working agreement of the miners expires.

CLERK'S DEATH WAS ACCIDENTAL

The death of M. J. Fennell, 82 Carroll street, who was killed while working as a freight clerk in the Union street freight yard, was accidental, Coroner Phelan found today. Fennell was 46 years old and had been employed many years by the New Haven Railroad. On March 5 last he was checking freight in the yard when he was struck by a moving train and killed.

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MILFORD CHIEF TESTFIES IN DIVORCE SUIT

Declaring that he raided the home of Julia Taylor in George street, Milford, because too many noisy automobile parties stopped there, Chief James M. Maher of the Milford Police department appeared before State Referee Roraback today to testify in the divorce suit started against Mrs. Taylor by William P. Taylor of this city. Chief Maher said he arrested a party of seven or eight men and women found in the house. They forfeited bonds in the Milford town court, he said. The raid happened in May, 1917.

He testified that some of the neighbors had complained regarding the sounds of revelry which issued from the house at night. Before she moved to George street Mrs. Taylor had lived in Myrtle Beach, the chief testified. Taylor accuses his wife of infidelity. She denies the charge and contested the case today. Referee Roraback reserved decision in the case.

POPULATION FIGURES.

Washington, March 12.—Population statistics for 1920 announced today by the census bureau included:
Macon, Ga., 52,525, an increase of 11,860 or 29.2 per cent.
Chattanooga, Tenn., 57,895, an increase of 12,291, or 29.3 per cent.
Cookeville, Pa., 14,515, an increase of 2,431, or 31.0 per cent.